Get The Drift and Bag It

Mahalo to our sponsors and volunteers for making the Oneula Beach Park (Hau Bush) clean up a great success on Saturday, September 17, 2005

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MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2005

Todd K. Apo Councilmember

YOUR DISTRICT 1 STAFF AT YOUR SERVICE

Todd K. Apo, Councilmember Gemma Espresion, Administrative Aide Guy Kaulukukui, Ph.D., Senior Advisor Charmaine Doran, Research Analyst

Telephone: 547-7001 Facsimile: 523-4220 E-Mail: tapo@honolulu.gov_

<u>Legislative Aides:</u>

Wendy Sefo, Ewa / Kapolei Honolulu Office: 527-6810 Kapolei Office: 692-5509

Karen Awana, Waianae Coast Honolulu Office: 527-5815 Kapolei Office: 692-5829

Our offices are located at: Honolulu Hale – 530 S. King St., 2nd Floor Kapolei Hale – 1000 Uluohia St., Suite 201

Councilmember Todd K. Apo and West-side Solutions

Airing on Olelo Channel 54

Sundays @ 8:30 PM

Councilmember's Message

Aloha! September was a quiet month at the City Council – at least from the standpoint of Committee Hearings and Full Council Meetings. My staff and I spent the month working on many community concerns and issues, as we prepared for a busy 4th quarter.

Transportation continues to be the big issue for West Oahu. Whether it's the construction on Farrington Highway throughout the Leeward Coast, the widening of Ft. Weaver Road in Ewa, the Kapolei Parkway and local roads, the emergency access roadway for the Coast, or bus routes, there are many, many transportation issues that we are all dealing with on a daily basis. The mix of City and State projects and responsibilities adds to the need for coordination on these efforts. We have been working to stay in touch with both the City Department of Transportation Services and the State Department of Transportation to keep things aligned. As a member of OMPO – the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization – I have an additional avenue to voice our opinion on traffic and transportation solutions for our region. Additionally, we hold quarterly meetings of the Ewa Transportation Coalition to discuss developing transportation issues within West Oahu. With these efforts, we hope to stay on top of the many transportation issues that affect us every day.

Besides roads, we are also tracking the major Capital Improvement Projects ("CIP") in our district. A majority of these projects are parks projects. Like transportation, we have many significant parks projects within our district. These include projects that seek to fix existing facilities, as well as continuing and completing new park projects. While we are working diligently to keep all of these projects on their paths, more importantly, we are working to prioritize these projects – considering both the needs of the community and the funding/timing of the projects. As our goal is to keep as many of these projects as possible on their timeline, we also recognize that there are limitations that we must work within.

Reaching outside our borders, I want to thank everyone who has participated in providing support for the victims of the recent natural disasters in the Gulf area. I know we are all counting our own blessings for having avoided similar incidents here in Hawaii. I encourage everyone to be prepared in the event of such an emergency, and our thoughts go out to those who have family and friends in the southern region.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to again thank all of you for the input, support, and effort over the last nine months. Since I took office in January, it has been a continuous learning curve on the City process and all of the details that make our island run. I encourage you all to continue to communicate with me and my staff. Please know that while we are all very busy, receiving your input is critical for us to be able to prioritize and plan our efforts.

For more information on these and other community initiatives please contact me or my staff at (808) 547-7001 or _tapo@honolulu.gov_.

Eyes on Ewa by Wendy Sefo

Support for Installation of Air Conditioning Units at James Campbell High School

Councilmember Apo has received a request from JCHS principal Dr. Gail Awakuni to request additional state Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds for the purchase and installation of the much needed air conditioning system at the high school.

Councilmember Apo has written letters to the Department of Education to encourage their support of Dr. Awakuni's request.

Any and all letters of encouragement may be helpful in raising the awareness of the Department of Education to the needs of James Campbell High School and to show the community's support of the needs of our high schoolers.

In addition to the Governor, letters can be addressed to:

Mr. Sanford Beppu

Dept. of Education - CIP
Planning Section
809 8th Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816
_sanford beppu@notes.k12.hi.us.

Mr. Nick Nichols

Dept. of Education - Facilities Planning Section 809 8th Avenue Honolulu, HI 96816 _nick_nichols@notes.k12.hi.us_

Mr. Gilbert Chun

Dept. of Education
Facilities Support Section
1037 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96814
_ailbert_chun@notes.k12.hi.us.

Keeping Up In Kapolei by Wendy Sefo

Teens and their Errant Behavior in Kapolei Kapolei has been experiencing a rash of delinquent behavior by teens both from Kapolei and communities outside of Kapolei.

Some report a group of homeless teens living in the old military bunkers. Checks of the area have turned up nothing because it is believed that these teens are hiding when either HPD or the Park's staff goes by to check

More recently, two Kapolei high schoolers were beaten as they walked home from a football game at Kapolei high school. Additionally, we continue to see extensive graffiti and destruction around throughout the City of Kapolei – at bus stops and store fronts.

Councilmember Apo is currently working with HPD command in Kapolei as well as the high school administration and the neighborhood board to discuss proactive approaches to this growing problem.

Please contact our office if you have any suggestions and/or solutions

Working within Waianae by Karen Awana

DISASTER DRIVING

Commuters along the Waianae Coast spend many hours in vehicles – traveling to work and running errands throughout the day. In times of emergency, people often react incorrectly, either staying with or abandoning their vehicles at the wrong time. This mistake can be fatal. The Oahu Civil Defense Agency has provided us a few safety tips during times of road closures or other emergencies.

In any situation, the most important rule is: Don't Panic!

HURRICANE - EVACUATE EARLY

Flooding can begin well before a hurricane nears land. Plan to evacuate early, and keep a full tank of gas during the hurricane season. Learn the best evacuation route before a storm forms, and make arrangements with friends or relatives inland to stay with them until the storm has passed. Never attempt to drive during a hurricane or until the all-clear is given after the storm. Flash flooding can occur after a hurricane has passed. Avoid driving on coastal and low-lying roads. Storm surge and hurricane-related flooding are erratic and may occur with little or no warning.

LISTEN to radio or television for the latest National Weather Service bulletins on severe weather for the area in which you will drive.

FLOOD - GET OUT OF THE CAR

Never attempt to drive through water on a road. Water can be deeper than it appears, and water levels can rise very quickly. Most cars will float dangerously for at least a short while. A car can be buoyed by floodwaters and then swept downstream during a flood. Floodwaters also can erode roadways, and a missing section of road--even a missing bridge--will not be visible with water running over the area. Wade through floodwaters only if the water is not flowing rapidly and only in water no higher than the knees. If a car stalls in floodwater, get out quickly and move to higher ground. The floodwaters may still be rising, and the car could be swept away at any moment.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES - KEEP IN THE CAR

Cars should be equipped with supplies, which could be useful in any emergency. Depending on location, climate of the area, personal requirements and other variables, the supplies in the kit might include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Blanket or sleeping bag.
- Booster cables and tools
- Bottled water
- Canned fruits and nuts
- Can opener
- Flashlight

- First aid kit
- Matches and candles
- Necessary medication
- Shovel
- Traction mats or chains

Rain gear and extra clothes

NEVER CARRY GASOLINE IN CONTAINERS OTHER THAN THE CAR'S GAS TANK!

For more information: see website <u>www.honolulu.gov/ocda</u> or call 523-4121.

The Analyst's Report: Legislative Highlights Resolution No. 05-162, CD1 - Ocean Pointe Park: by Charmaine Doran

Last month at its September 28th meeting, the Honolulu City Council unanimously adopted Resolution 05-162, CD1. Introduced by Councilmember Apo in April 2005, this resolution amends the Public Infrastructure Map (PIM) for Ewa by adding to it a park symbol for the proposed Ocean Pointe Park. The adoption of this legislation not only satisfies a prerequisite of the City's public improvement process, but also starts the wheels in motion for getting this District 1 project off the ground.

The Revised Ordinances of Honolulu establishes numerous conditions and requirements for City funded improvement projects and programs. One such proviso is found in Chapter 4, Article 8. This part of the code mandates that certain public improvements projects (such as parks) be included and/or designated on the appropriate Public Infrastructure Map (PIM). This is necessary before any City construction can occur. Additionally, PIM projects routinely must be consistent with the General Plan and commonly mirror the City's 6-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget. Inclusion and designation on the PIM is achieved primarily via the adoption of Council resolution. With the PIM step completed for the Ocean Pointe Park, the City can now concentrate on carrying out the detailed planning, design and construction segments of this project.

According to Communication No. 736 from the Department of Planning and Permitting, the 18.5 acre park parcel is currently owned by Haseko, Inc. Dedication of the property to the City is now underway and is expected to be completed by 2006. The Conceptual Site Plan for the park consists of various recreational improvements including game courts and ball fields, a playground, gymnasium and walking path. In total, park improvements are estimated to take several years to finish and cost approximately 12 million dollars to complete. However, to begin with, park improvements must be designed. For this initial task, Councilmember Apo has incorporated an initial \$50,000 into the City's 2005-2006 CIP budget.

